

Message Text

SECRET

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DPW-01

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P R 171636Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5375

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LISBON 7492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ID, PO, PT, US

SUBJECT: EFFECT OF TIMOR ON US-INDONESIAN RELATIONS

REF: JAKARTA 15438

1. WHILE WE HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO EMBASSY JAKARTA'S ARGUMENTS, THERE IS, OF COURSE, A LISBON PERSPECTIVE ON EVENTS IN TIMOR; US LACK OF SUPPORT FOR GOP, EUPHEMISTICALLY TERMED "NON-INVOLVEMENT," WILL NOT GO UNNOTICED HERE. THE CONTRAST IN US POSITIONS ON ANGOLA AND TIMOR IS ALL TOO OBVIOUS. EQUALLY OBVIOUS WOULD BE THE CONTRAST BETWEEN OUR HIGH PRESSURE LOBBYING ON SUCH ISSUES AS KOREA AND SEEMING US DISDAIN FOR GOP CONCERNS SHOULD WE NOT RESPOND IN SOME WAY TO AN ELEMENTARY HUMANITARIAN REQUEST ON POW'S. WE TRY TO TELL THEM THE UN IS IMPORTANT, THAT THEIR VOTE HAS A MORAL CONTENT AND THAT NATO ALLIES SHOULD STICK TOGETHER BUT THIS MESSAGE WILL BE DILUTED IF WE DO NOT FOLLOW SOME CONSISTENT PRINCIPLES IN THE TIMOR DEBATE.

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2. WE WOULD UNDERSCORE THAT GOP HAS ALWAYS TACITLY ACQUIESCED
IN EVENTUAL INDONESIAN PREDOMINANCE IN TIMOR. HENCE INDONESIAN
UNRESPONSIVENESS ON PORTUGUESE POW'S IS PARTICULARLY PERPLEXING
SINCE CONTINUED UNNECESSARY FRICTION BETWEEN GOP AND GOI CAN
ONLY BE SELF-DEFEATING FROM GOI'S VIEWPOINT.
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